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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, DECEMBER 29, 1999

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, ex rel.

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

CASE NO. PUC990159

Ex Parte: In re: Investigation
of area code relief for the 804
Numbering Plan Area

ORDER ASSIGNING HEARING EXAMINER

On June 24, 1999, the North American Numbering Plan Administrator, Lockheed Martin IMS ("NANPA"), in its role as the neutral third-party Numbering Plan Area ("NPA") Relief Planner for Virginia, and acting on behalf of the Virginia telecommunications industry ("Industry"), provided notice to the Commission of the Industry's consensus recommendation to implement an all services distributed overlay relief plan for the 804 NPA.

On September 23, 1999, the Commission issued an Order Assuming Jurisdiction, docketing the matter and suspending the proposed implementation of the overlay plan for the 804 NPA, pending further order of the Commission.

According to the NANPA, and based upon demand projections submitted by the Industry, it is estimated that without relief,

the supply of central office codes for the 804 NPA will be exhausted during the fourth quarter of 2001. On May 4, 1999, members of the Industry participated in a meeting to discuss area code relief plans. The NANPA reported that the Industry discussed five relief alternatives, eliminated the four alternatives requiring geographic splits, and reached a consensus to implement an all services distributed overlay.

On December 7, 1999, NeuStar Inc. ("NeuStar") provided formal notice to the Commission Staff that on November 17, 1999, the Federal Communications Commission had approved the transfer of Lockheed Martin IMS's Communications Industry Services group to NeuStar; the transaction was finalized on December 1, 1999. NeuStar additionally indicated that it would continue to provide neutral third-party clearinghouse services for the telecommunications industry, previously handled by Lockheed Martin IMS.

The Commission is of the opinion that public comments should be invited about the appropriate area code relief and proposed implementation of the overlay plan for the 804 NPA, and that public hearing(s) should be scheduled in the affected area(s) to receive public comments. A Hearing Examiner will be assigned to accomplish this and to conduct all further proceedings in this matter.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

(1) Pursuant to the provisions of Rule 7:1 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a Hearing Examiner is hereby assigned to conduct all further proceedings in this matter.

(2) The Examiner shall direct that the hearing(s) be scheduled at an appropriate place and time within the 804 area code territory to receive public comments about the best method for implementing a new code.

(3) The Examiner shall direct the Commission's Division of Communications to publish a newspaper notice about the time and place of the public hearing(s) and the address and docket number to which written comments may be sent.

(4) The Commission's Division of Communications, in consultation with the NANPA, shall assist the Examiner with arrangements and scheduling of the time and place for the public hearing(s).